

Juvenile Council Meeting Minutes

**March 10, 2014
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention (GOCCP)
300 E. Joppa Road, Suite 1105
Baltimore, MD 21286**

Participating Members:

Ron Rivlin, Chair
Keith Warner, Vice Chair
Zachary Caplan
Lynn Davis
Maceo Hallmon
Leon Lockett
John McGinnis
Adia Moore
Master Kathryn Poole
Zara Schwartz
David Thompson (phone)

Guests:

Michelle Becote-Jackson, Y of Central Maryland

Staff:

Jessica Wheeler, Director of Juvenile Justice, Juvenile Justice Specialist
Bill Harper, Juvenile Justice Compliance Monitor
Justice Schisler, Eastern Region Chief

I. Welcome and Opening

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes

Members were provided with minutes from the February meeting. Master Poole made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. McGinnis seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved as written.

III. Subcommittee Updates

a. Youth

The Youth subcommittee has met three times. The goals are to increase youth participation in the SAG by recruiting additional members. In addition, the youth subcommittee is focusing on retaining existing members. Several members provided suggestions for recruitment through the local Teen Court and Drug Court programs.

A youth manual has been created for new and existing members which provides detailed information on the Council as well as information on the core protections of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act).

The youth subcommittee would like to coordinate focus groups with youth who are currently involved in the system (either on probation, in detention or in aftercare) to gain feedback that can be brought back to the full Council for potential policy reform.

b. Grant Monitoring

The Grant Monitoring subcommittee met via conference call on Friday, March 7. The subcommittee would like to engage with the sub-recipients by conducting site visits either in conjunction with GOCCP's program monitoring visits or independently. In addition, the subcommittee would like to invite sub-recipients to present at regular SAG meetings more frequently. These visits and presentations will begin with the new awards that start on July 1, 2014. The goal is to gather feedback at the local level on emerging issues and trends as the Council works to develop its next Three-Year Plan.

The subcommittee will develop a standard template for visits and Ms. Wheeler will survey other states to see what is currently being used. The subcommittee suggested that the Council recruit a local Foundation to either attend or become a member of the SAG as a new resource for potential funding. There was general consensus that there is great need for assistance in moving towards a sustainable funding structure at the local level so that grant funds are not the only source. Ms. Moore suggested that the subcommittee develop a newsletter to highlight successful grant programs, share information about available funding, and bring greater visibility to the SAG.

c. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

The DMC subcommittee met via conference call on Friday, March 7. Members discussed utilizing the 2011 DMC Assessment conducted by the University of Maryland (and contracted by the Council) to develop a statewide strategic plan.

The subcommittee will increase partnership with the local DMC Coordinators and has invited two of the most experienced Coordinators to participate in the subcommittee. Those Coordinators, Lisa Wykcoff from Baltimore County and Elijah Wheeler from Montgomery County, have both accepted the invitation to participate.

The third area of interest for the subcommittee is to explore additional funding streams to support DMC. Members also discussed utilizing the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's State Training and Technical Assistance Center to assist in the development of the strategic plan. This would be provided to the Council at no charge.

d. Recruitment, Training, and Regionalization

The Recruitment, Training, and Regionalization subcommittee met via conference call on Friday, March 7. Members discussed connecting with existing committees and councils throughout the State that address juvenile justice. Members will also develop a plan to recruit members from the Western and Eastern regions as the Council is currently underrepresented in those areas. The subcommittee would like to bring more visibility to the Council and one strategy is to enhance the Council's page on GOCCP's website.

The subcommittee will create an electronic recruitment package that will be distributed to all members as a means of ongoing recruitment efforts. The package will include a letter about the Council and the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) toolkit which provides detailed information on council members' role and responsibilities. The subcommittee is also working to develop a structured interview process for new applicants.

IV. Compliance Monitoring Updates

Mr. Harper provided members with an update on the current number of violations that have occurred for the data collected in 2013. The data was broken down by type of violation and by jurisdiction. Mr. Harper also provided members with OJJDP's compliance standards which includes the number of allowable violations before being placed in non-compliance status. Mr. Harper has provided training in Montgomery County where there were a significant number of violations and expects the issues that were driving the violations to be resolved. In addition, Mr. Harper has been conducting trainings throughout the State on the JJDPA along with Mr. Mark Thompson from Wicomico County who presents on DMC. The next training is scheduled for March 18th at the Community College of Baltimore County- Essex Campus. All members have been invited via email to attend. If interested, members are asked to register through the link in the email or contact Ms. Wheeler.

V. Juvenile Justice Specialist Updates

a. Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

GOCCP has been meeting regularly with the PREA Coordinators at DPSCS and DJS, as well as getting information from National agencies and partners including NCJA, NGA, BJA, and other SAAs around the country. Each Governor's ability to certify compliance is contingent on DOJ's ability to provide auditors to certify this compliance. GOCCP is well aware of potential PREA related penalties (which includes a 4.5% Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) reduction, a 5% reduction to Byrne Justice Act Assistance Grants (BJAG) and a 5% reduction to Title II Formula (JJAC) grants) and we will continue to

move towards PREA Compliance as DOJ makes necessary resources and audits available.

b. Grant Review Technical Assistance

Ms. Wheeler provided members with training on reviewing grant applications in preparation for the upcoming grant review session on May 14, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at GOCCP. Ms. Wheeler reminded members that the by-laws require all members (except youth) to participate in the grant review process.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next Steps:

- Ms. Wheeler to schedule subcommittee meetings to occur monthly
- Ms. Wheeler to continue to survey other states on their SAG site visit methods
- Ms. Wheeler to provide all members with the 2011 DMC Assessment Study
- Members should alert Ms. Wheeler if they will be unable to participate in the grant review session

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, May 12, 2014
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
GOCCP
300 E. Joppa Road, Suite 1105
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-821-2828